

**BATMAN AND ROBIN!**



No. 137

JULY

Ten Cents

# Detective COMICS

A 52 PAGE MAGAZINE

HERE'S AN  
EASY REBUS!  
BUT THEY  
GET PLENTY  
MYSTERIOUS  
AND MENACING  
WHEN THE

**JOKER**  
USES THEM IN



+



=

**"THE  
REBUS  
CRIMES"**



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\*How Television Will  
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Test Your Wits:  
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...and other  
**FACT FEATURES**



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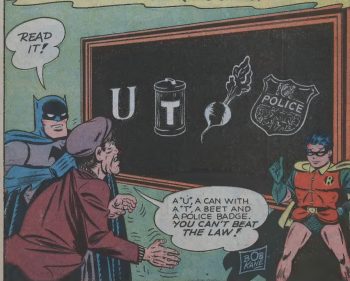
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# BATMAN

WITH  
**ROBIN**  
- THE BOY WONDER -

IN ANCIENT TIMES, MEN WROTE WITH PICTURES INSTEAD OF LETTERS, AND PICTURE-WRITING IS STILL USED IN REBUS-RIDDLES. BUT WHEN THAT MASTER OF MALICIOUS MISCHIEF, THE JOKER, WRITES REBUS-RIDDLES IT'S NOT FOR INNOCENT FUN, BUT FOR A SINISTER PURPOSES AND BATMAN AND ROBIN HAVE TO READ THE ARCH PRANKSTER'S RIDDLES IN TIME TO SAVE GOTHAM CITY FROM THE DISASTROUS RESULTS OF - **THE REBUS CRIMES!**



THAT CLOWN-PRINCE OF CRIME, THE JOKER, IS ALWAYS INTRIGUED BY THE UNUSUAL!



AS THE PROPRIETOR PROUDLY EXPLAINS...



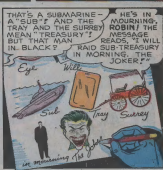
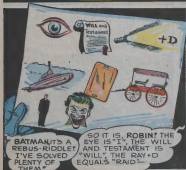


A SWIFT CHANGE OF COSTUME AND THEN, FROM THE SECRET BAT-CAVE HANGER BENEATH THE WAYNE MANSION, THE POWERFUL BATMOBILE IS HAULED UP.



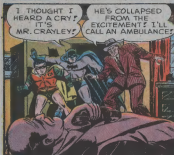
SOON, IN GORDON'S OFFICE...

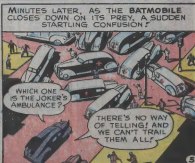
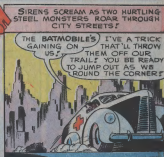
THIS LETTER MAY BE A HOAX, BUT IT'S SIGNED BY A JOKER PICTURE! LET I WONDER IF THAT MAD CLOWN IS SEE IT BEHIND IT? COMMISSIONER



NEXT MORNING, AT THE SUB-TREASURY...







**BAFFLED BY THE ARCH-PRANKSTER'S CUNNING GETAWAY TRICK...**

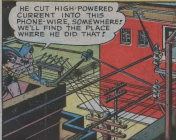
THE JOKER ESCAPED US - BUT HE GOT ONLY A LITTLE LOOT FROM THE SUB-TREASURY?

HE'LL SOON BE AT IT AGAIN, UNLESS WE CAN TRAIL HIM DOWN! LET'S GO BACK THERE!



**ON THE ROOF OF THE SUB-TREASURY...**

HE CUT HIGH-POWERED CURRENT INTO THIS PHONE-WIRE, SOMEWHERE! WE'LL FIND THE PLACE WHERE HE DID THAT!



THE DUO MOVES AMID A MAZE OF DEATH-CHARGED WIRES AS THEY GRIMLY TRACE A STRANGE TRAIL!

CAREFUL, ROBIN! ONLY THE INSULATED CABLES ARE SAFE TO STEP ON AND TOUGH!

WE'RE SURE FOLLOWING A "HOT" ENOUGH CLUE!



SEE, THE INSULATION IS SCRAPED OFF THE PHONE WIRE! THIS IS WHERE THEY DID IT, ALL RIGHT! SOMEONE DOWN IN THIS BUILDING MUST HAVE SEEN THEM! WE'LL INQUIRE!



SURE, I SAW SOME FELLOWS HURRYING OUT OF HERE THIS MORNING! THEIR LEADER WAS A QUEER GRINNING GUY!

THEN YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE THEY LIVE, OR ANYTHING ABOUT THEM!



ONLY THAT THEY MUST BE SIGN-WORKERS! THE GRINNING GUY WAS SAYING, "SOON AS WE FINISH THIS JOB, WE'LL FIX THAT LUCKY GUM SIGN!"

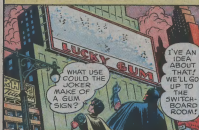
HE MUST HAVE MEANT THAT HUGE LUCKY GUM PICTURE SIGN DOWNTOWN! COME ON, ROBIN!







AT THE GREAT SIGN WHICH EACH NIGHT FLASHES ITS ANIMATED ADVERTISING PICTURES...



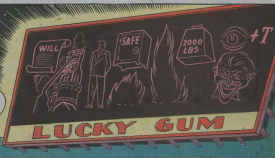
THIS TAPE HAS PERFORMED PICTURE-PATTERNS THAT TURN ON THE SIGN'S LIGHTS SO AS TO FORM THE ADVERTISING PICTURES!



THAT NIGHT, THE LUCKY GUM SIGN FLASHES A STRANGE, NEW PICTURE!

LOOK, THE GUM SIGN HAS GONE CRAZY!

NO. IT'S A REBUS-RIDDLE! "WILL-STEEL-MILL-MAN-SAFE-FIRES-TON-EYE-PLUS T-JOKER!"



THAT MEANS, "WILL STEAL MILLMAN SAPPHIRES TONIGHT, JOKER!"

MILLIONAIRE MILLMAN'S SAPPHIRE COLLECTION IS FAMOUS! AND THAT'S HIS MANSION RIGHT THERE!



WHILE IN THE MILLIONAIRE'S MANSION—

YES, I READ THE REBUS SIGN, BUT IT'S AN EMPTY THREAT! THE JOKER CAN'T GET INTO MY STRONG ROOM FOR THE SAPPHIRES!

BUT MR. MILLMAN, THE THREAT HAS BROUGHT A BIG CROWD INTO THE STREET!





AS THE CURIOUS CROWD AND REPORTERS BESIEGE THE HOUSE, A FAKE "PHOTOGRAPHER" GOES INTO ACTION...



MR. MILLMAN HAS NOTHING TO SAY? NO, YOU CAN'T COME IN?

THIS SMOKE BOMB DOWN THE COAL-CHUTE WILL CHANGE HIS MIND?

MOMENTS LATER, AS SMOKE SUDDENLY BILLOWS UP THROUGH THE MANSION...



FIRE? TURN IN AN ALARM?

THE JOKER MUST HAVE SET THE HOUSE ON FIRE TO CRACK OPEN MR. MILLMAN'S STRONG ROOM?



CLEAR THE WAY FOR THE FIREMEN?

GET THOSE HOSES CONNECTED AT ONCE?



THE HOUSE IS DOOMED? GET OUT AT ONCE?

NOT WITHOUT MY SAPPHIRES! I'M GOING TO GET THEM?

AS THE PANICKY COLLECTOR UNLOCKS HIS STRONGROOM...



I'LL TAKE THOSE SAPPHIRES?

THE JOKER?



SURE, WE STOLE A FIRE-TRUCK AND USED THE SMOKE TO TRICK YOU INTO OPENING THIS ROOM? HUH - BATMAN?

WE READ YOUR REBUS - THREAT AHEAD OF TIME FROM THE TAPE YOU PUT IN THE SIGN-CONTROL. JOKER? AND MILLMAN LET US WAIT HERE TO TRAP YOU?



BUT THE MAD MOUNTBANK IS MOST DANGEROUS WHEN CORNERED!



YOU'RE GETTING TOO HOT ON MY TRAIL! THIS WILL COOL YOU OFF!

THAT WILD HOSE WILL KEEP HIM BUSY FOR A FEW MINUTES!



AND WHEN THE WRITHING FIRE-HOSE WAS BEEN CONQUERED...

BY THE TIME WE COULD GET THE BATMOBILE THROUGH THIS CROWD, HE'LL BE GONE! WE'VE LOST HIM!

THAT'S WHY HE USED THE REBUS-SIGN TO DRAW A BIG CROWD—SO AS TO BLOCK PURSUIT!



BUT HE GOT MY RARE SAPPHIRES IN SPITE OF YOU?

NO, HERE ARE YOUR JEWELS! WE SUBSTITUTED IMITATIONS FOR THEM, IN CASE OF A SLIP-UP!



LATER, AT THE GOTHAM ZOO...

BUT JOKER—WHY SHOULD YOU WANT TO STEAL ONE OF OUR LIONS?

THAT'S FOR BATMAN TO FIGURE OUT!



THE HARLEQUIN OF CRIME NEXT STOPS BEFORE THE CAGE OF A BRAHMA BULL...

NOTHING LIKE HOT LEAD TO STAMPEDE THIS BABY INTO OUR TRUCK! NOW TO GET THE OTHER ANIMALS!





THAT NIGHT...

I'VE A HUNCH THE JOKER IS PREPARING ANOTHER REBUS-MESSAGE! THE ZOO JUST REPORTED HE HAS STOLEN A **BULL** AND A **LION** AMONG OTHER ANIMALS!

BULL? LION? SAY, THAT COULD MEAN **BULLION!**



RIGHT? AND A BIG **BULLION** SHIPMENT IS SUPPOSED TO ARRIVE BY OVER-SEAS FREIGHT-PLANE TOMORROW! ON EXACTLY WHICH PLANE IS SECRET?



THE BANDITS TOOK SEVERAL WAGON-CAGES AND SOME OF OUR BEST SPECIMENS - A LION, A BULL, TWO GIRAFFES, A BAT, A DEER, AND ALSO ONE OF OUR KEEPERS!

I THINK YOU'LL HAVE THEM ALL BACK SOON.



MINUTES LATER...

WHAT A LIE! I CAN'T FIGURE ANYTHING OUT OF IT!

YET THERE'S A REBUS MESSAGE IN IT THAT TELLS WHAT THE JOKER IS AFTER NOW!



NEXT MORNING, AN ASTOUNDING **LIVING** REBUS STARTLES THE PEOPLE OF GOTHAM CITY!



IT'S ANOTHER OF THE JOKER'S REBUS-THREATS! CAN YOU READ IT?

"DEER BAT-MAN: BULL-LION NECKS+T. JOKER!" IT MEANS: "DEAR BATMAN: BULLION NEXT, THE JOKER!"



MEANWHILE, CIRCLING AND WAITING OUT OVER THE SEA...

BUT HOW CAN WE TELL WHICH FREIGHT-PLANE HAS THE BULLION ON IT?

HA, HA! THAT WAS THE PURPOSE OF MY LIVING-REBUS WARNING! BATMAN WILL ESCORT THE BULLION PLANE IN, BECAUSE OF MY THREAT!

WE'LL BE ABLE TO SPOT THE BULLION-PLANE BY THAT! AND OUR PLANE CAN SHOOT DOWN THE BATPLANE SO WE CAN LOOT THE OTHER!

THERE COMES THE BATPLANE, FOLLOWING A FREIGHT PLANE IN NOW!

WITH UNEXPECTED SUDDENNESS, A SCREAMING ATTACK OCCURS HIGH ABOVE!

RIDDED BY A STORM OF LEAD, THE BAT-WINGED ESCORT PLANE CRASHES TO A WATERY DOOM!

THAT'S THE END OF BATMAN AND ROBIN AT LAST!

AND NOW FOR THE BULLION PLANE!

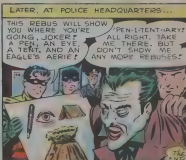
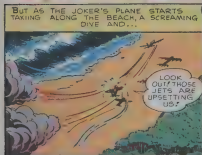
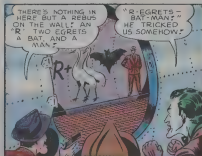
SWIFTLY OVERTAKING THE SLOWER FREIGHT-PLANE...

LAND ON THAT BEACH DOWN THERE, OR WE'LL BLAST YOU!

WE'LL LAND! THERE'S NOTHING ELSE WE CAN DO!

PRESENTLY...

NOW FOR THE BULLION! HELP ME GET THIS DOOR OPEN!





# "You run Faster in Keds!"



Whatever you play you  
do it better with Keds  
Arch Cushion Support!



Be sure to ask for and get genuine  
U. S. Keds. The name is on the shoe.



U. S. KEDS Handbook  
of Sports and Games  
—FREE with Keds at  
your Keds Store.



UNITED STATES  
RUBBER COMPANY

**Keds Shockproof Arch Cushion**

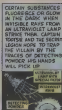
SHOCKPROOF  
ARCH  
CUSHION  
HEEL



# **TOOTSIE** THE CIRCUS CULPRIT

TRAPS

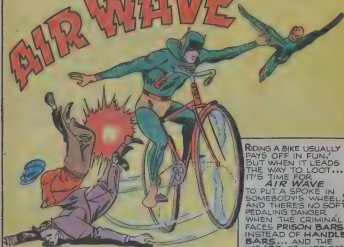
BY G. C. BUCH







# AIR WAVE

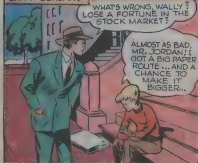


RIDING A BIKE USUALLY  
PAYS OFF IN FUN,  
BUT WHEN IT LEADS  
THE WAY TO LOOT...  
IT'S TIME FOR

**AIR WAVE**  
TO PUT A SPOKE IN  
SOMEBODY'S WHEEL!  
AND THERE'S NO SOFT  
PEDALING DANGER  
WHEN THE CRIMINAL  
FACES PRISON BARS  
INSTEAD OF HANDLE  
BARS... AND THE  
WIZARD OF WIRELESS  
TRIES TO BREAK UP THE...

## CYCLE OF CRIMES!

A FRIEND IN NEED... THAT'S DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
LARRY JORDAN.



WHAT'S WRONG, WALLY?  
LOSE A FORTUNE IN THE  
STOCK MARKET?

ALMOST AS BAD,  
MR. JORDAN! I  
GOT A BIG PAPER  
ROUTE... AND A  
CHANCE TO  
MAKE IT  
BIGGER...



BUT I CAN'T COVER IT  
WITHOUT A BIKE... AND I  
DON'T HAVE THE MONEY TO  
BUY ONE.

MAYBE YOUR  
CREDIT'S GOOD.  
COME ON!



AND SO, AT BURTON'S BIKE STORE...

WALLY SMITH WILL PAY YOU  
OUT OF WHAT HE MAKES  
SELLING PAPERS  
...YOU'LL GET  
YOUR MONEY!

WELL, IT'S  
AGAINST OUR  
POLICY...



OH, OH... JORDAN'S  
TIPPING ME OFF  
THAT HE WILL  
STAND GOOD FOR  
THE MONEY HIM-  
SELF...

... BUT WALLY  
HAS AN HONEST  
FACE... I'LL  
TRUST HIM!



HOW WOULD  
YOU LIKE  
ONE OF  
THESE?

HMM... HAVEN'T YOU GOT  
ANY NEWER MODELS?



HA, HA... JUST A JOKE OF MINE.  
THESE ARE PART OF OUR EXHIBIT!  
BUT THERE'S A BIKE SHORTAGE  
AROUND HERE... BET WE COULD  
SELL THEM IF WE CARED TO!



THUS WALLY GETS HIS TREASURED  
BIKE! BUT SOME TIME LATER...

MR. JORDAN... THERE  
HAVE BEEN A DOZEN DAY-  
TIME ROBBERIES... AND  
I'VE GOT A CLUE!



ALL THOSE ROBBERIES  
WERE IN HOUSES THAT  
GET PAPERS FROM ONE  
KID... WALLY SMITH! HE  
WAS EVEN SEEN COMING  
FROM ONE AFTER IT  
WAS ROBBED!

WALLY  
SMITH?  
IMPOSSIBLE!



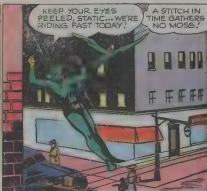


BUT THE EVIDENCE  
DOES SEEM TO BE  
AGAINST HIM... IT'S  
TIME AIR WAVE  
TOOK A HAND.



A  
SWIFT  
CHANGE  
OF  
COSTUME

...  
AND  
THE  
D. A.  
BECOMES  
THE  
AMAZING  
WIZARD  
OF  
WIRELESS  
!



KEEP YOUR EYES  
PEELED, STATIC... WE'RE  
RIDING FAST TODAY!

A STITCH IN  
TIME GATHERS  
NO MOSS.



THIS IS WALLY'S PAPER  
ROUTE... AND THERE HE  
IS NOW.



HE'S SNEAKING  
INTO THE HOUSE...  
IT CAN'T BE.



HE MUST HAVE A GOOD  
EXCUSE... I'LL SPEAK  
TO HIM... MAKE  
HIM RETURN THE  
MONEY...



EARS BRADY! I  
THOUGHT YOU WERE  
WALLY SMITH! YOU'RE  
MADE UP TO LOOK  
LIKE HIM.

YOU THOUGHT  
YOURSELF INTO  
TROUBLE, AIR  
WAVE.



THIS KNIFE  
WILL SHUT YOU  
UP!

UP TO YOUR  
OLD TRICKS,  
YOU RAT!



HERE'S ONE OF MY TRICKS!  
MY SHOES ARE MAGNETIZED...  
THEY ATTRACT YOUR KNIFE  
AWAY FROM MY FACE...



THEN I REVERSE THE  
CURRENT... AND SEND  
YOUR KNIFE BACK  
WHERE IT CAME  
FROM!

YIII!  
MY  
HAND!



UNEXPECTEDLY...

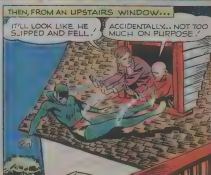
I GIVE UP,  
AIR WAVE!

YOU GIVE UP  
TOO EASILY... I  
WONDER...



THIS WILL PUT AN  
END TO YOUR  
WONDERING, SAP!

ARGH



THEN, FROM AN UPSTAIRS WINDOW...

IT'LL LOOK LIKE HE  
SLIPPED AND FELL!

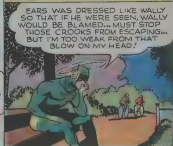
ACCIDENTALLY... NOT TOO  
MUCH ON PURPOSE!



BUT AS THE MAGICIAN OF RADIO PLUNGES DOWNWARD, HE SWITCHES ON HIS MAGNETIC SHOES...



AND AS A DAZED AND WEAKENED AIR WAVE RESTS BRIEFLY...



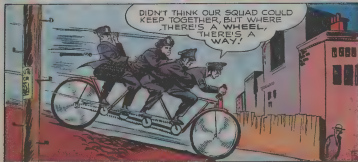
SUDDENLY, ON ALL METAL POLICE BADGES...

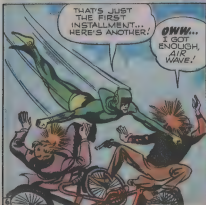
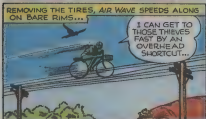
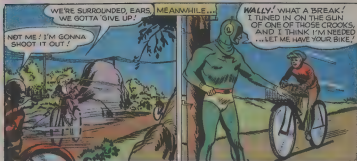


AND PRESENTLY... THE BIKE SHOP HAD ONLY OLD BIKES—BUT THIS IS AN EMERGENCY!



DIDN'T THINK OUR SQUAD COULD KEEP TOGETHER, BUT WHERE THERE'S A WHEEL, THERE'S A WAY!





# GET YOUR FREE MOVIE STAR PICTURES

# FREE!

ON BOY! LOTS  
OF PICTURES  
IN NATURAL  
COLOR!

SEE THE SWELL  
PICTURES OF THE NEW  
SCHWINN BIKES, TOO!

FREE, TOO!  
JUST SEND THE  
COUPON!

LOOK! ROY ROGERS,  
BOB HOPE, BING CROSBY,  
JANIS PAIGE.....ALL THE  
FAMOUS MOVIE STARS!

JOIN THE FUN!  
SEND FOR YOURS  
TODAY!



Look for this Seal IT'S  
YOUR PROOF OF QUALITY



Send for this NEW 1948  
FREE Movie Star Folder  
TODAY!

SEE color pictures—photographs taken  
in Hollywood—of your favorite movie  
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Pick out the bike you want  
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Write for free Movie Star  
Folder today.

RIDE WITH  
THE STARS ON A

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**America's Finest Bicycle**

Watch the gang gather 'round to admire your  
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for sure because only Schwinn-Built Bicycles  
have such exclusive features as Automobile  
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It's features like these that  
make almost 4 out of 5 boys and girls prefer  
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brand. Reason: a Schwinn. See why America's  
favorite bicycle is America's Finest Bicycle.

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Please Send Me FREE Movie Star Folder.

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# WON-BY A WHISPER!

ANOTHER JIM WISE "P-F" SPORTS STORY

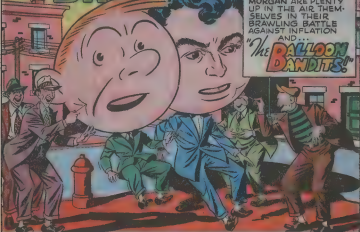




# SLAM BRADLEY

THEY FLY THROUGH THE AIR WITH THE GREATEST OF EASE... AND THEY'RE JUST LOADED WITH TROUBLE! YES, WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THOSE BOUNCING GAS-BAGS KNOWN AS BALLOONS — TOYS TO YOU, BUT SHREWD AIDS TO CRIME FOR A CANNY CROOK NAMED FOXY FORCE! AND SLAM BRADLEY AND SHORTY MORGAN ARE PLENTY UP IN THE AIR THEMSELVES IN THEIR BRAWLING BATTLE AGAINST INFLATION

AND...  
**"The BALLOON BANDITS!"**



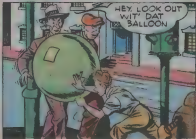
THESE ARE LEAN DAYS FOR CRIME... AND FOXY FORCE KNOWS IT.

ARCHIE, I'VE BEEN BEATIN' MY BRAINS OUT TRYIN' TO THINK OF A GOOD RACKET, BUT IT'S NO USE.

ME, TOO, BOSS, BUT I AIN'T GOT AN IDEA!



HEY, LOOK OUT WIT' DAT BALLOON





FOXY TRIES TO DETOUR, STUMBLES, AND...



THAT KID... BALLOON... CRIME... ARCHIE, I GOT AN IDEA AT LAST!

GOSH, YOU SOUND AS IF YOU REALLY BEAT YOUR BRAINS OUT THAT TIME.



BALLOONS... AND I DON'T MEAN HOT AIR.' COME ON, WE GOTTA ROUND UP THE BOYS AND TELL 'EM.'



AND SO, AS DYNAMIC SLAM BRADLEY AND DIMINUTIVE SHORTY, ACE DETECTIVE DUO, TAKE THE AIR...

GEE, SLAM, WISH I COULD DETECT SOME MONEY IN MY POCKETS, AND ARREST A MEAL.

ME, TOO, MIDGET. CRIME CERTAINLY DOESN'T PAY US THESE DAYS.



SUDDENLY...

HELP! CROOKS! ROBBER! THIEVES!

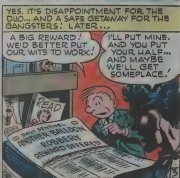
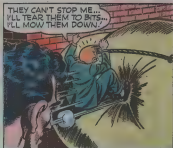
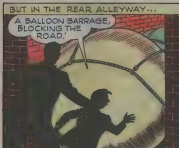
THIS WAY, SHORTPANTS! THERE MAY BE A REWARD... AND FOOD!



THEY WENT THAT WAY... OUT THE REAR DOOR.

LET ME AT THEM... I'LL EAT THOSE THUGS ALIVE!







## SOMEPLACE IS... A BALLOON FACTORY?

YES, WE DID GET A NEW CUSTOMER RECENTLY... HE BOUGHT ALL SORTS OF BALLOONS. HE EVEN WANTED THE NAME OF THE CRANE CLUB PRINTED ON SOME OF THEM.

SOUNDS LIKE A GOOD PLACE FOR A JOB. I THINK WE'LL TAKE A FEW BALLOONS OURSELVES, MISTER... ON CREDIT!



## SHORTLY...

HOLD IT DOWN SHORTY... IT HAS A LOT OF LIFTING POWER!

NOT ENOUGH TO PULL ME OFF THE GROUND, SLAM... WE'LL NEED MORE!



## BUT GAS IS CHEAP, AND SOON...

GOSH IT TAKES THREE OF THESE TO HOLD ME UP!

NOW WE'LL JUST FLOAT OVER TO THE CRANE CLUB!



## MEANWHILE IN THE SWANK NIGHT CLUB...

LOOK, EGBERT, BALLOONS. HOW FESTIVE!



THE CANDLES ARE EXPLODING THEM... I SAY, I FEEL AWFULLY AMUSED...

MUST BE THE FLOOR SHOW... HA-HA... IT'S FRIGHTFULLY ENJOYABLE...

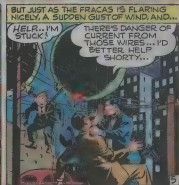
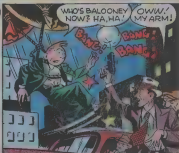
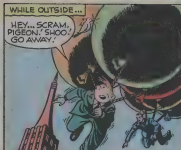


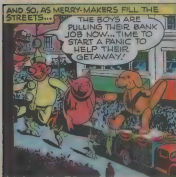
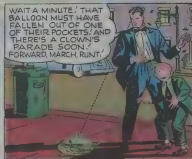
## SECONDS LATER...

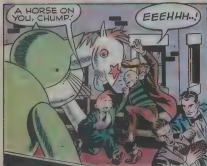
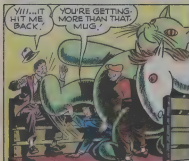
SAY, FOXY, THEY LIKE US TO PICK THEIR POCKETS!

YEAH, THOSE BALLOONS FULL OF LAUGHING GAS SURE MAKE BOTH THEM AND US HAPPY.









ADVENTURES OF

## POPSICLE PETE

IN

"SHOW TIME"



ENJOY

Popsicle Fudgsicle CREAMSICLE

and SAVE BAGS for SWELL GIFTS

ALWAYS GET THE OFFICIAL  
GENUINE BAGS --  
THEY ALWAYS SAY --"Save These Bags for Gifts" and also read  
"Licensed by Joe Lowe Corp."HERE ARE  
ONLY  
A  
FEW

Get your free list of all these wonderful gifts at your ice cream store.

Or write direct to Popsicle Pete at his address nearest to you:

NEW YORK 1, N. Y.  
601 W. 26th St.CHICAGO 10, ILL.  
400 W. Ohio St.LOS ANGELES 23, CAL.  
2744 E. 11th St.ATLANTA, GA.  
325 Elizabeth St. N.E.



# SECRET CODES CAN BE FUN

By HENRY LYSING

*Author of "Secret Writing: How to Code and Decode,"  
"The Cryptogram Book," etc.*

**S**ECRET codes and ciphers are as old as the hills. Older than even the alphabet itself, for many of the prehistoric picture-writings explorers have found in cave dwellings have proved to be coded messages.

Codes are very important in world history. They have been responsible for the winning or losing of empires, with wars invariably being won by the side that had the best cipher experts. Julius Caesar, mighty conqueror that he was, invented a code that you can use yourself.

Art, literature, and science have all benefited by the use of codes. Businessmen throughout the world use secret ciphers in their daily work. Most diplomatic messages are sent in code. And sweethearts, from time immemorial, have hidden their romantic messages in disguises that were codes.

Cipher writing is so simple and so easy to learn that we should all be familiar with the methods used for building them. We should have a number of codes handy to use with friends for pleasure or in case of emergency.

## The Numbers Code

As example of how a good code can be useful among friends, take the case of Harry Gibson and his classmate, Billy Hendricks. These boys had a chance to buy a bicycle at a very reasonable price, but the store owner said

that he could not hold the bicycle any longer than right after school. It meant just about all the money the lads could get together, and because of this they were still undecided at noontime. Billy wanted to buy it, but Harry hesitated.

In the middle of afternoon classes, just when Harry decided in favor of buying the bicycle, the teacher became annoyed by some disturbance in the back of the room—and announced that the last six rows would have to stay after school! That meant that Harry couldn't tell Billy, who sat in the front of the room, to go to the store and close the deal. Harry did not dare send a note to his friend; and, of course, he couldn't whisper his decision to him, either.

He had almost given up hope when the teacher ordered the last six rows to the blackboard and instructed them to write examples of addition as part of their punishment.

Harry eagerly went to the board and wrote five columns of figures, knowing that when Billy saw the secret code they contained he would rush right out after class and buy the bicycle. Here is what Harry wrote:

	348	20	1,432	2
2	31	8	847	9
21	500	1	2,001	11
25	113	20	43	5
48	992	49	4,323	27

Can you read the hidden message in those figures? It's really very simple—if you know the Numbers Code, which is a substitution of a number for each letter of the alphabet, beginning with 1 for "A," up to 26 for "Z." The alternate columns of figures, using only two figures, gave Billy the tip-off. He correctly read 2, 21, 25 to be *BUY*; then he skipped a column to 20, 8, 1, 20, which is *THAT*; and the last column, 2, 9, 11, 5, is translated to mean *BIKE*. So Billy bought it, and was waiting outside the school for Harry when his section of the class was finally dismissed.

That code is easy, isn't it? Just take a look at what we have to work with:

First we take a strip of paper, or cardboard, and type or write on it the entire alphabet, like this—

**A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q  
R S T U V W X Y Z**

Or just cut out the above line and paste it on heavy board for convenience. This line, labeled No. 1, is our "straight" alphabet. Succeeding ones will be the "coded" alphabets.

Now make a second line, just like the first. Then make a third, this time with the alphabet reversed.

To complete the job we make two more strips, one using the numbers 1 to 26, and the other having them in reverse, from 26 to 1. They will be used in the same way as our alphabet strips.

To illustrate the Numbers Code used by Billy and Harry, take your "straight" alphabet and put it on a flat surface. Then take your numbers, from 1 to 26, and put that strip immediately below the letters. There you have your

code at a glance, each letter directly above its proper number.

The code can be used in reverse with the 26 to 1 strip. You can make other variations by moving the number strip to the left, so that the letters have higher numbers—that is, instead of 1, "A" could be 3, 5, or any other number, with "Z" correspondingly higher; in this case, all you have to do is add the necessary numbers to the end of your strip.

### Alphabet Codes

Using the alphabet slides, we work exactly the same way as Julius Caesar did when he created the famous cipher that bears his name.

Take your "straight" alphabet and put the second strip, with the alphabet in regular order, immediately under it. Now move the bottom strip to the left by three letters, so that you have "D" under "A," and so on. That's all Julius Caesar did—advanced each letter to encode it!

You can make any number of code variations by moving the slides back and forth. Further complications can be figured by encoding only every other letter and leaving the others in their original form. The only thing to limit you is your own imagination.

(In the next issue of Detective Comics we will explain the secrets of other codes and ciphers you can use yourself. Among these will be the Tic-Tac-Toe Code, the Rail Fence Cipher, and an American code that baffled not only the Germans but also our own forces. And we'll also tell how you can make invisible inks right in your own kitchen. Don't miss this bang-up feature!)

# "U.S. ROYAL"

WITH HIS  
JET-PROPELLED BIKE



"ROUNDING UP  
THE RUSTLERS"



WHILE VACATIONING OUT WEST, DEPUTY U.S. ROYAL AND THE BOYS OF THE ELM CITY BIKE CLUB ARE ENJOYING THE SIGHTS, WHEN SUDDENLY...

SAY, ROYAL, WHO'S KICKING UP ALL THAT DUST DOWN THERE IN THE VALLEY?

RUSTLERS! AND THE POSSE'S NOT FAR BEHIND!



AND AS ROYAL WATCHES THE CHASE THROUGH HIS GLASSES, HE SEES...

GOOD! THE POSSE CAN'T FIGURE WHICH WAY WE WENT!

WELL, KEEP RIDIN'... WE AIN'T SAFE TILL WE GET THROUGH THE GORGE UP AHEAD...



FELLAS, YOU TWO BIKE DOWN AND TELL THE POSSE TO HEAD FOR THE GORGE... I'LL HAVE A NICE SURPRISE THERE WAITING FOR THEM!



NOW IF I CAN JUST GET TO THE TOP OF THAT GORGE BEFORE THOSE CATTLE-THIEVES GET TO THE BOTTOM!



I MADE IT! THESE ROCKS WILL FORCE THEM TO TURN BACK... RIGHT INTO THE HANDS OF THE POSSE!



BOYS, LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE PUT AN END TO THIS RUSTLIN' RACKET... THAT WAS MIGHTY FAST WORK ON YOUR PART!

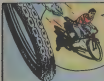
YOU MEAN MIGHTY FAST BIKING... THANKS TO OUR U.S. ROYAL BIKE TIRES!



FELLAS, SPEED AND SAFETY ARE REALLY "BUILT INTO" U.S. ROYAL BIKE TIRES-- WITH THEIR SPECIAL BUILT-IN SPD CHAIN.



"TAKE MY TIP ON BIKE TIRES -- TAKE THE TIRE WITH THE BUILT-IN SPD CHAIN"... SAYS U.S. ROYAL



IF YOU WANT TO BE SURE OF FIRM FOOTING... SAFE, QUICK STOPS... MAXIMUM MILEAGE... PERFECT CONTROL-- BE SURE TO GET U.S. ROYAL BIKE TIRES. THAT SPECIAL BUILT-IN SPD CHAIN MAKES THEM TOPS IN TIRES.

## U.S. ROYAL BIKE TIRES

America's Fastest Selling Tires



UNITED STATES RUBBER COMPANY  
Serving Through Science

# LOOK KIDS! Get YOUR OWN scale model of the history making

## **FREEDOM TRAIN!**

(COMPLETE ON BOTTOM OF ONE KELLOGG'S VARIETY PACKAGE TRAY)

**M**ore than a toy! A model of the train you've all talked about, and read about! The train that carries on board the

famous Declaration of Independence... Lincoln's "Gettysburg Address"... and many other priceless documents of our freedom!

### **NOW..COMPLETE ACCURATE SCALE MODEL**

of the 3,000 h.p. Diesel  
electric locomotive...  
equipment car... 3  
steel-plated exhibit  
cars... Headquarters  
Pullman—Complete



COMPLETE ON BOTTOM OF ONE *Kellogg's* VARIETY PACKAGE  
**NO MONEY — NO BOX TOPS TO SEND IN!**

### **GOT THE HIAWATHA?**

Here's the Observation Car's  
famous BEAVER TAIL!  
Get the complete train (locomotive and 4 cars!)



• You will find these on the  
bottoms of other Kellogg's  
Variety Packages—cars from the  
Milwaukee Road's Streamliner,  
THE HIAWATHA!

**BOY!** I'M ASKING  
MOM TO GET ME KELLOGG'S  
VARIETY TODAY!



10 INDIVIDUAL PACKAGES OF  
DELICIOUS KELLOGG'S CEREALS IN

## *Kellogg's* VARIETY



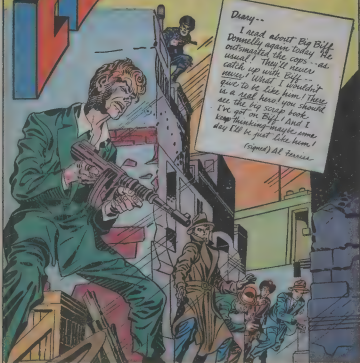
# The G-4 COMMANDOS

“THE RISE AND FALL  
OF A GANGSTER!”

Diary--

I read about Big Biff Donnelly again today. He outsmarted the cops--as usual! They'll never catch up with Biff--never! What I wouldn't give to be like him! There's a real hero! You should see the big scrap book I've got on Biff! And I keep thinking--maybe some day I'll be just like him!

(signed) Al Ferris





FEW WILL FORGET THE TERRIBLE MONTHS WHEN BIG BIFF DONNELLY RULED AS ABSOLUTE TYRANT OVER ALL OF GANGLAND---



SUSPECTING BIG BIFF WAS ONE THING--**CATCHING** HIM RED-HANDED WAS ANOTHER. THUS HE WAS ALWAYS ONE JUMP IN FRONT OF THE LAW---

YOU SAID MY BOYS CRACKED THAT WAREHOUSE! I SAY, **WHAT BOYS?** I BEEN IN MIAMI! I DON'T KNOW NOTHIN'! HAW HAW!

OKAY, CASEY! TURN HIM LOOSE! LACK OF EVIDENCE!



THEN ONE NIGHT, WITH A HOOD CALLED BLINKEY EVERS, BIG BIFF CALLED ON A RIVAL GANG CHIEF, ACE BANTON--

HONEST, BIFF! I AIN'T BEEN RUNNING STUFF ON YOUR SIDE OF THE RIVER! I'M KEEPIN' OUR AGREEMENT!

YEAH, ACE? WELL, I HEARD DIFFERENT!



WHILE, ON THE STREETS BELOW, A SQUAD OF POLICE CARS, SIRENS SCREAMING, APPROACHED THE BUILDING WHERE BIFF DONNELLY HAD JUST COMMITTED HIS LATEST CRIME--

LISTEN! SHOTS! THIS IS THE PLACE!

COME ON, BOYS! WE MAY BE TOO LATE EVEN NOW!



I GET TIRED O' WARNIN' GUYS, ACE!

BLINKEY! SOMEONE RATTED! THAT S RIP CARTER AND ALL THE COPS IN TOWN DOWN THERE!

I TIPPED 'EM OFF, BIFF!





FOR ONCE, BIG BIFF STARTED ARREST AND CONVICTION IN THE FACE---

I BEEN WAITIN' FOR A CHANCE LIKE THIS-- A CHANCE TO GET MORE DOUGH OUT OF YA!

YOU BLINKEY! YOU!



YOU GET ALL THE TAKE! I GET PEANUTS! I KNOW A WAY OUT OF THIS TRAP, BIFF-- BUT YA GOTTA PROMISE TO CUT ME IN FOR HALF FROM NOW ON!

SOLD ME OUT, EH?



RAT! THE LAW HASN'T TASSSED A RAP ON ME YET!-- AN' I'M NOT GETTIN' CALOHT NOW!



THEN BIFF CRAWLED OUT ON A LEDGE, LEAPED FOR A FAR ROOF-TOP---

SOMEONE'S GETTIN' AWAY! OPEN FIRE!



WHILE IN THE APARTMENT---

TOO LATE! NO SIGN OF DONNELLY! HE BEAT US AGAIN!

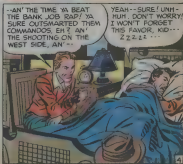
RIP, DEY'RE SHOOTIN' AT SOMEONE OUTSIDE!



ALL RIGHT! WE'LL PICK HIM UP!

THAT ROOF CARTER! A MAN JUMPED OVER THERE!









SO BIG BIFF BEAT THE TWIN-MURDER RAP AND CONTINUED A FREE MAN! BUT ONLY TWO WEEKS LATER, A STUNNING HEADLINE SHOOK THE CITY---



NOT LONG AFTERWARDS, BIFF HAD A VISITOR---

THEY GOTCHA, BIFF! THE DIRTY COPS! CHEER UP, KID! I JUST MADE A MISTAKE--THAT'S ALL! LISSSEN, I WANNA DO THAT FAVOR I PROMISED YA!



SURE, KID! I MEAN IT! BUT DON'T LET 'EM GETCHA ON THAT DUMB TAX RAP! ME? HA, HA! JUST LET 'EM TRY IT! I'LL SHOW 'EM!



AFTER ALL DA CRIMES DAT APE PULLED, DEY HAF'TA GET 'IM ON A TAX CHARGE! IT JUST SHOWS THAT EVEN THE "SMARTEST" CROOK IS ALWAYS CAUGHT! BIG BIFF IS THROUGH!



PSST, AL! I TRUST YA, SEE! I WANT YA TO TAKE OVER UNTIL I GET OUT! SURE--- BE THE BOSS! MY MOUTHPIECCELL ARRANGE EVERYTHING FOR YA! OKAY?

YA MEAN IT, BIFF?



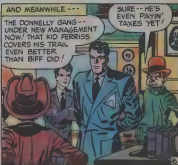
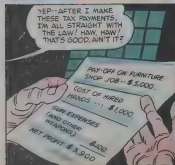
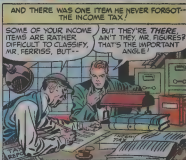
AT FIRST, YOUTHFUL AL HAD HIS TROUBLES WITH THE GANG--BUT THESE WERE QUICKLY "IRONED" OUT---

FOR THE LAST TIME --I'M RUNNIN' THIS OUTFIT! WANNA ARGUE?

NO, AL! NO! WE JUST THOUGHT--

MAYBE WE BETTER LET AL DO THE THINKIN'--







THE GANG WAS QUIET FOR SEVERAL WEEKS; THEN, ON THE FOURTH DAY OF JULY--

BUT HE'LL  
SLIP! THEY ALL  
DO! AND WHEN  
HE MAKES THAT  
ONE MISTAKE,  
WE WANT TO BE  
READY TO NAIL  
HIM!

I'M TELLIN' YA, AL--  
IT'S SOME OF ACE  
BANTON'S OLD MOB!  
THEY BEEN HIJACKIN'  
ON THIS SIDE O'  
THE RIVER!

WHAT'IN MY  
TERRITORY?

MOVIN' IN, ARE THEY?  
REMEMBER WHAT BIFF  
SAID-- HIT 'EM FIRST  
AN' YA WIN! WELL,  
LET'S GO!

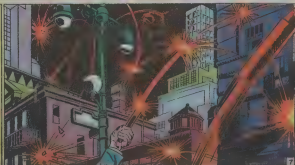
I CAN TAKE  
YA TO  
THEIR  
HIDEOUT!

THAT NIGHT, A "REPAIR" TRUCK ROLLED  
THROUGH THE STREETS---

THESE GUYS ARE  
KEEPIN' THEIR HIJACKIN'  
TRUCKS IN A EAST SIDE  
GARAGE! I'LL SHOW YA!

STEP ON IT! WE'LL  
FIX THEM  
MONKEYS!

ALL WAS  
FUN AS THE  
CITY'S  
POPULATION  
WATCHED A  
SPECTACULAR  
DISPLAY OF  
FIREWORKS--  
UNAWARE OF  
A GRIM DRAMA  
BEING ENACTED  
ELSEWHERE--





MEANWHILE, THE "REPAIR" TRUCK ROLLED INTO AN EAST SIDE GARAGE. AND THEN ---

HEY! WHAT IS THIS?--

CLAM UP, STUPID! CALL THE REST OF YOUR BOYS--AND MAKE IT SNAPPY!



LOOK, FERRISS! MEBBE WE DID WORK IN YOUR REGION! WE WON'T DO IT AGAIN! GIVE US A BREAK!

WE WILL! TURN AROUND AN' TAKE IT!



JOE! THAT SOUNDED LIKE SHOTS IN THAT GARAGE!

JUST ECHOES FROM THE FIREWORKS DISPLAY AT THE PARK-- LET'S HURRY BEFORE WE MISS THE WHOLE SHOW!



BIFF ALWAYS SAID-- 'GET THE GUYS THAT MOVE IN.' HA, HA! SO I GOT 'EM!



LATER THAT SAME NIGHT---

IT'S SURE MESSY, RIP! WHO DO YA T'INK KILLED DEM GUYS?

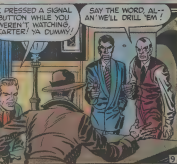
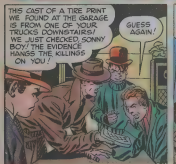
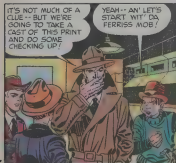
THEY THINK FERRISS ENGINEERED IT--BUT THEY DON'T KNOW FOR SURE! HMM-- THE TIRE PRINT IN THIS GREASE IS INTERESTING!



THIS BARREL WAS STRUCK BY ONE OF THE BULLETS! GREASE RAN OUT ON THE FLOOR AND THEN A VEHICLE CROSSED OVER IT!

IT LOOKS LIKE A TRUCK TIRE PRINT, RIP! IT MUSTA LEFT RIGHT AFTER THE SHOOTIN'!

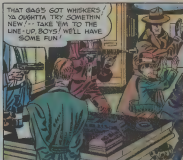






BFF NEVER LIKED YOU  
ETHER, CARTER! MAYBE  
NOW I CAN DO HIM  
A BIG FAVOR!

TOO LATE, AL! WE  
PHONED THE POLICE  
FROM DOWNSTAIRS!  
THEY'RE COMING  
OVER HERE!



THAT BAG'S GOT WHISKERS!  
YA OUGHTTA TRY SOMETHIN'  
NEW!... TAKE 'EM TO THE  
LINE-UP, BOYS! WE'LL HAVE  
SOME FUN!



THE COMMANDOS WERE TAKEN TO A BACK  
ROOM, PLACED ON A LITTED STAGE, AND--

YOU BOYS SURE  
YOU KNOW WHO  
THESE GUYS ARE?

YEAH--HA HA!  
THE BIG ONE  
LOOKS LIKE  
RIP CARTER!



AN' DA LITTLE GUY  
LOOKS JUS LIKE  
BROOKLYN! SAME  
HEIGHT! HE SENT  
ME UP DA RIVER  
ONCE!

GOOD ENOUGH!  
--TURN AROUND  
WHILE WE GIVE  
IT TO YA!

LISTEN--  
SIRENS!



HE'S RIGHT! HE  
DID CALL THE  
COPS! LET'S  
BLAST 'EM AN'  
SCRAM!

WHEEEEE!



BUT IN THE SPLIT SECOND THAT AL TURNED HIS BACK--

NOW! LET'S  
TAKE 'EM!

PULLIN' A FAST  
ONE, EH? WATCH  
ME!



THEY'RE GETTIN' THE  
BEST OF THE GANG,  
AND THIS HEATER'S  
JAMMED!



IN TRUE GANGSTER FASHION, THE KILLER TURNED  
COWARD WITHOUT HIS GUN. HE FLED INTO A  
HALLWAY, WHERE ---

BETTER LET US  
TAKE YOU QUIETLY,  
FERRISS!

GO DROWN  
YOURSELF, COPPER!



COME AN' GET  
ME, COPPERS!  
UNHHH!

WITH PAIN THROBBING IN HIS CHEST, THE WOUNDED  
GANG GEAR CLIMBED TO A ROOF SKY-LIGHT, AND---

THERE! GOT 'EM  
STOPPED FOR NOW!  
HA, HA! JUST LIKE  
BIFF!



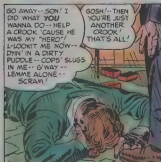
NEVER FORGET FIRST  
TIME I MET BIFF --  
SAME THING -- COPS  
ARE AFTER HIM  
ON ROOF --  
FUNNY, AN'T IT --



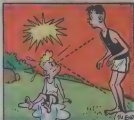
PAIN IN CHEST ---  
HURT --- BAD ---

STOP,  
FERRISS!









ADVERTISEMENT

**Now CRACKER JACK SKIRT now in stores**

## HI-KIDS! GET THIS

# Cracker Jack

## MAGIC PENCIL

WRITES 4 COLORS AT ONE TIME

**R IN ON WRITING IS**

**THE RAGE--GET YOUR MAGIC PENCIL NOW--**

Amuse your friends... have lots of fun... get this clever Magic Pencil so you can write or draw in rainbow colors. Each line you make will be Red-Green-Yellow and Blue—all in one. Send for your Magic Pencil today! Mail 3 Cracker Jack label sailor boys and 34 stamp to The Cracker Jack Co., Pencil Desk 20, 4800 W. 66th St., Chicago 36, Illinois.

*It writes like this*

ACTUAL SIZE OF POINT

IF GOING TO BE FIRST IN MY ROOM TO GET A MAGIC PENCIL

GET 3 PHOENIXES OF CRACKER JACK AND A 34 STAMP...

CUT 3 SAILOR BOYS FROM 3 CRACKER JACK BOXES

SEND 3 SAILOR BOYS WITH A 34 STAMP TO THE CRACKER JACK CO. PENCIL DESK TO 4800 W. 66th STREET CHICAGO 36 ILLINOIS

FOR 10 CENTS

CRACKER JACK CO. PENCIL DESK TO 4800 W. 66th STREET CHICAGO 36 ILLINOIS



Thom McAn Asks:

HOW MUCH DO YOU  
REALLY KNOW ABOUT

# BASEBALL?

IN ONE PICTURE BELOW, BATTER IS AUTOMATICALLY  
OUT BEFORE BALL IS CAUGHT. WHICH ONE?



**ANSWER:**  
LEFT-HAND PICTURE. EVEN THOUGH PLY IS OUT OF IN-  
FIELD, IT CAN BE HANDLED BY INFIELDER. IN RIGHT-  
HAND PICTURE THERE ARE 2 OUT THEREFORE PLY  
MUST BE CAUGHT FOR PUTOUT.



BASEBALL IS  
CALLED AMERICA'S  
FAVORITE SPORT.  
CAN YOU NAME  
AMERICA'S  
FAVORITE SHOE?

**ANSWER:**  
IT'S THOM MCAN--BECAUSE  
AMERICANS KNOW THAT  
THEY GET MORE FOR THEIR  
MONEY AT THE FAMOUS  
GREEN-AND-WHITE SHOPS.

THIS WILL  
SURPRISE YOU:  
WHO  
PITCHED  
MORE  
SCORELESS  
WORLD  
SERIES  
INNINGS--  
ONE--  
AFTER--  
ANOTHER--  
THAN  
ANY  
OTHER  
HURLER?

**ANSWER:**  
( "BIG DAWG" BOB FELLER )  
HURLER WHO PITCHED 10  
THE LITTLE RED BOOK OF BASE-



WHAT BALL PLAYER--  
WHO DIED IN 1941--HAS  
A NEW YORK CITY STREET  
NAMED AFTER HIM?

**ANSWER:**  
LOU BRUCKS. HIS NAME MEANT DAY-AFTER-  
ONLY AFFECTIONATELY ON THE DIAMOND--  
JUST AS THOM MCAN MEANS

ACCORDING TO THE  
RULE BOOK, HOW  
BIG IS A CATCHER'S  
MITT?

**ANSWER:**  
AS BIG AS YOU LIKE, THERE'S NO  
OFFICIAL LIMIT ON SIZE, SHAPE,  
OR WEIGHT!



## FREE!

WITH YOUR NEXT PAIR OF THOM MCANS - BIG PHOTO OF FACE HURLER

## BOBBY FELLER

WITH BOBBY'S OWN AUTOGRAPHED PHOTO OF SPEED-  
BALL-KING "RAPID ROBERT" FELLER--PLUS A WON-  
DERFUL ILLUSTRATED 25-QUESTION BASEBALL QUIZ

THE VALUABLE CERTIFICATE ON THIS PAGE CAN BE EX-  
CHANGED FOR A BIG AUTOGRAPHED PHOTO OF SPEED-  
BALL-KING "RAPID ROBERT" FELLER--PLUS A WON-  
DERFUL ILLUSTRATED 25-QUESTION BASEBALL QUIZ  
ON THE BACK OF PHOTO. JUST GIVE CERTIFICATE TO  
SHOE FITTER NEXT TIME YOU BUY A PAIR OF HAND-  
SOME, "HE MAN" THOM MCANS.

TEAR OUT CERTIFICATE NOW. TAKE IT WITH YOU WHEN  
YOU NEXT VISIT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD THOM MCAN SHOP--  
WHERE YOU ALWAYS GET THE MOST FOR YOUR MONEY.

AMERICA'S MOST POPULAR SHOE

Thom



McAn

602 27081

IN THE CITY

SAVE THIS VALUABLE CERTIFICATE. BRING  
IT TO YOUR NEAREST THOM MCAN SHOP

**BOBBY FELLER Photo CERTIFICATE**  
DO NOT MAIL--GOOD ONLY IN THOM MCAN SHOPS

GIVE THIS TO THE THOM MCAN SHOE FITTER NEXT  
TIME YOU BUY A PAIR OF THOM MCAN SHOES,  
AND YOU WILL RECEIVE YOUR BOBBY FELLER  
PHOTO AND QUIZ. DO NOT MAIL--GOOD IN A  
THOM MCAN SHOP ONLY. EXPIRES DEC. 1, 1948.

YOUR NAME  
ADDRESS

CITY

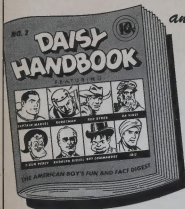
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